

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01095 202001Z

73

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 106875

O 201939Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4133

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T GENEVA 1095

EXDIS

FROM ALDRICH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM; ICRC; VN

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON LAWS OF WAR -- GVN RESPONSE TO
POSSIBLE INVITATION TO PRG

1. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT GVN WOULD DO IN
EVENT CONFERENCE VOTES TO INVITE PRG TO PARTICIPATE AS
PARTY TO GENEVA CONVENTIONS. HOWEVER, SINCE OUR VOTE
ESTIMATE, WHICH FLUCTUATES FROM HOUR TO HOUR AND IS
NECESSARILY IMPRECISE, CURRENTLY SHOWS PRG AHEAD BY
3 VOTES, IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO THINK OF THIS CONTINGENCY.
WE ARE, OF COURSE, CONTINUING TO WORK CLOSELY WITH GVN
IN ROUNDING UP MAXIMUM OPPOSITION TO PRG.

2. WE MAY AGREE, I ASSUME, THAT HANOI'S GOAL IS NOT
MERELY ACCEPTANCE BY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PRG
ALONGSIDE GVN, BUT ULTIMATE EXCLUSION OF GVN AS WELL.
PRESENT EFFORT BY HANOI IS MERELY FIRST STEP IN THIS
PROCESS, AND THEY HAVE SHREWDLY CHOSEN FORUM WHERE
PRESSURES ARE STRONG TO MAXIMIZE ATTENDANCE FOR CON-
SIDERATION OF "HUMANITARIAN ISSUES" AND WHERE SOME OF
OUR FRIENDS ARE ABSENT. IF THEY SHOULD WIN AND GVN WERE
TO RESPOND BY WALKING OUT, RESULT WOULD, I FEAR, BE
TO COMPLETE PROCESS IMMEDIATELY AND GIVE HANOI
TOTAL VICTORY. PRECEDENT WOULD THEREBY BE ESTABLISHED

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 01095 202001Z

FOR OTHER CONFERENCES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,
AND SUPPORT FOR GVN WOULD BE MUCH HARDER TO FIND.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, SHOULD GVN CHOOSE TO REMAIN IN CONFERENCE IN FACE OF INVITATION TO PRG, PRECEDENT COULD TO CONSIDERABLE DEGREE BE DISTINGUISHED IN SUBSEQUENT FIGHTS IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA ON GENERALLY ACCEPTED GROUNDS THAT THIS CONFERENCE IS UNIQUELY UNIVERSAL FORUM BECAUSE OF ITS HUMANITARIAN NATURE.

4. I REALIZE THAT POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN SAIGON MAY DETERMINE OUTCOME WITHOUT REGARD TO THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS WHICH I BELIEVE IMPORTANT. NEVERTHELESS, IF DEPARTMENT AND AMB. MARTIN AGREE WITH THIS ANALYSIS, I WOULD URGE THAT THEY BE DISCUSSED WITH GVN AT HIGHEST LEVELS BEFORE FINAL DECISION IS TAKEN.

5. ON TIMING, VOTE ON PRG ISSUE ALMOST CERTAINLY CANNOT OCCUR BEFORE FRIDAY, FEB. 22, AND MONDAY, FEB. 25 IS MORE LIKELY. DALE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, INVITATIONS, LAW OF WAR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA01095
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P740145-2390
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740219/aaaaascp.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONFERENCE ON LAWS OF WAR -- GVN RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE INVITATION TO PRG
TAGS: PARM, VN, ICRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005